

STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

June 3, 1977

↓  
Aaron Novick  
Dean  
Graduate School  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon 97403

Dear Aaron:

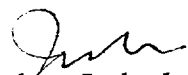
I was much more grateful to receive your letter of March 21, than you might imagine from the time it has taken me to respond. Thank you so much for sending me the material, both about the reactions to recombination and the Pajamo story. Of course, I would never use this in any way that would embarrass any of you. What you wrote bolstered my own -- by this time, somewhat hazy -- recollection; yes, I have talked to Schaffner a couple of times and believe I was responsible for siccing him on to you. On the whole, I think he has done a rather good job in collecting this historical material.

I was reminded of you again last night -- and that is what provoked me to look for your letter and acknowledge it -- when I heard that there is some effort going to honor Van Niel, and I had some inquiries about the significance of the summer course! I was glad to see that this is recorded in print in the Szilard memoir. (In fact, on the same page that refers to the confirmatory experiments on segregation in *E. coli*.)

I saw Larry Okun not long ago in Salt Lake City, where he seems to be thriving. He really is one of the brightest people I have ever met, but altogether too cautious and self-critical to have much chance of 'making it' in the current climate of scientific competition. Well, he won't do too badly.

We hope you meant it when you said something about having other cause to visit Menlo Park as well.

Yours sincerely,

  
Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

JL:ek-f  
Enclosures (2)